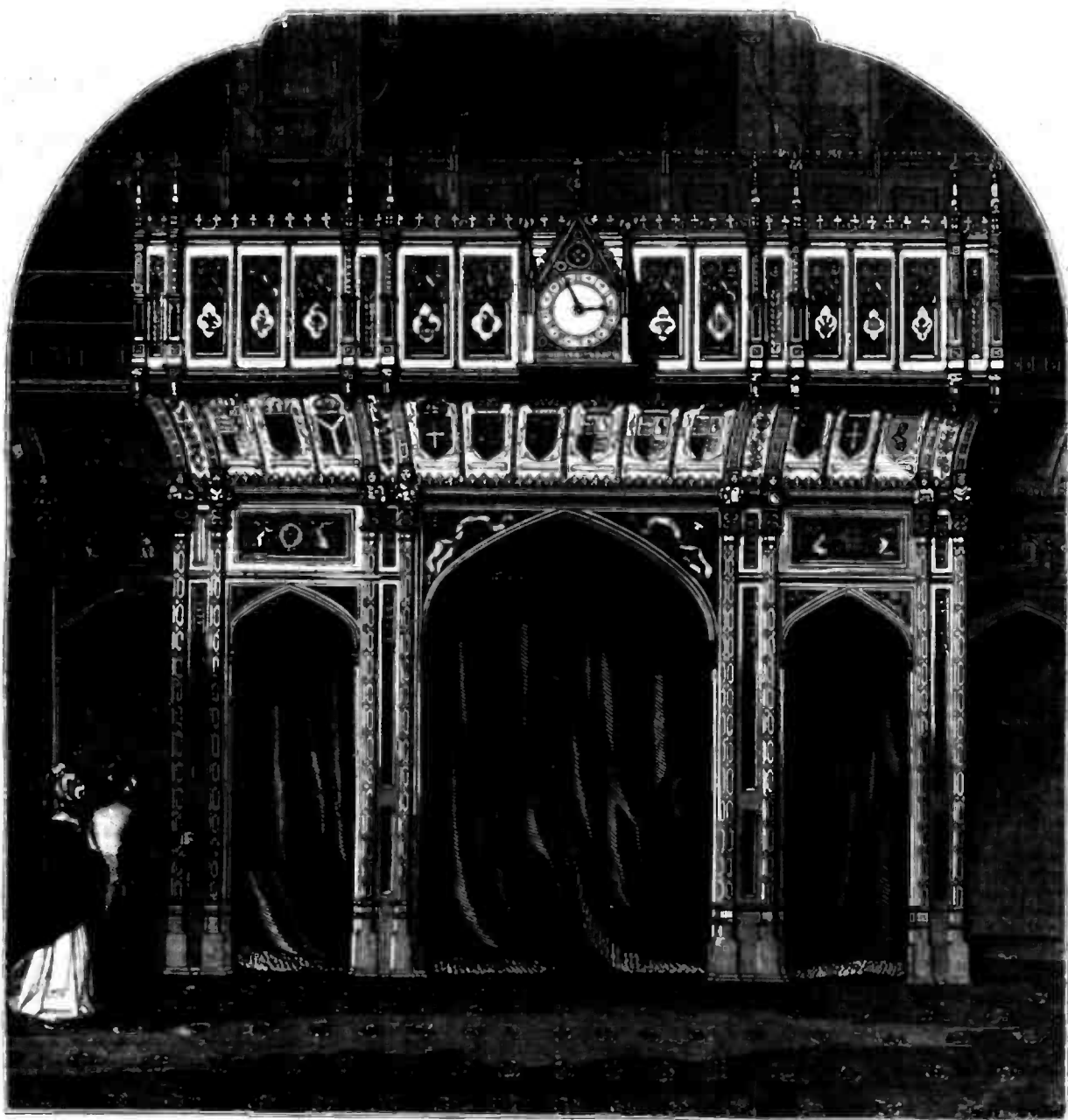


REPORTERS' GALLERY, IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.



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THE accompanying engraving represents the reporters' gallery, at the bar end of the new House of Lords. Behind the middle curtain are the brass gates, of which we gave a representation some time since, leading into the peers' lobby.

This gallery, like the rest of the woodwork, is wholly carved in oak. It shews, more clearly than our previous illustrations, the details of the coved soffit of the gallery which runs round the house, already described by us as being blazoned with the arms of the Chancellors. Behind the reporters' gallery is seen the strangers' gallery. Space occurs here for three frescoes.

In continuation of our series we shall speedily give the Victoria lobby, and probably some external views, when we shall continue our observations on the structure generally.*

* We take this opportunity to acknowledge the politeness of Mr Clifford, writer of the black red.

A LOST CITY.

At a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries, some time since, Sir Henry Ellis brought under notice an account of a lost city, near the coast of Pomerania, said to have been overwhelmed by the sea in the eleventh century.

These ruins lie between the Danish island of Bornholm and the Island of Rugen, opposite to Swedish Pomerania. It seems that the streets have been laid out, like Babylon, at right angles. According to Lubeccius, alderman of Triptow, this ruined city, situate on level ground, was visited by travellers with attention about the year 1564; among other visitors was the then Duke of Brunswick, and his chaplain. A vessel had come from Gothland, and took away all the marble and metal then to be found. Among other things were a pair of very large city-gates, made of metal, concerning which there existed a popular song. President Keffenbrink tells us, that on the 14th of August, 1771, two Dutch vessels were shipwrecked on the ruins of this city. There were then standing several pillars of white marble, or alabaster. The Counsellor M. Jordan went thither with Commodore Baarts from Swinemund, who endeavoured to save the vessels; as the weather was fine, all the

company went on board and inspected the pillars, one of which by the shock was brought from its vertical position. Some old men declared, that they had formerly seen these white pillars above water. A certain master of a vessel at Swinemund said that, eleven years before that time, an English ship was lost on the ruins of Vineta, and on that occasion he went thither to assist the vessel in distress. He said he had discerned two walls of brick, which he supposed were about four feet thick, and 60 or 70 feet distant from each other, but only some parts of them reached so high as the water's edge.

Sir Henry adds, that the oldest map on which he has as yet found the site of Vineta or Vineta laid down, is that in C. de Jode's "Speculum Orbis Terrarum," 1593; and in 1650, it was described as *Vineta emporium olim celeberrimum aquarum aestu absorptum*. In Zedler's great Lexicon, 1748, there is a full account of this "principal and most ancient town." Its origin is derived from the Phœnicians, and it appears to have attained to great wealth and importance in 470; but intestine broils induced them to call in the Swedes and Danes, who are stated to have ruined this fine city about A.D. 796, or thereabouts.